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THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Tomorrow's weather **25 | 13**



Pulse of Wabash

Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Walk by Faith Community Church plans free community meal

A free community meal has been planned from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27 at Walk by Faith Community Church in Roann. For more information, call 765-833-9931.

MSD to host community presentation Feb. 27

MSD of Wabash County will be hosting a Community Presentation to share updates on their Strategic Plan at 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27 at Southwood Jr./Sr. High School, 564 Indiana 124.

Wabash VFW Post 286 to host breaded tenderloin dinner

The Wabash Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 286 is set to host a breaded tenderloin dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28 at 3678 W. Old 24. The cost will be \$9 per person, it open to the public and carryout will be available. The menu will include hand-breaded tenderloin, french fries and coleslaw. For more information, call 260-563-2463.

Visit Wabash County to celebrate Margie Hostetler's retirement

Visit Wabash County has invited the public to stop and to wish Hostetler a happy retirement between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28 at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center, 221 S. Miami St.

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No confirmed COVID-19 novel coronavirus cases in state yet

Virus has now been detected in 37 locations internationally

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

At this time, no cases of COVID-19 novel coronavirus have been confirmed in Indiana, and no Hoosiers are under investigation, stated Jennifer O'Malley, deputy chief of staff and Office of Public Affairs director for

the Indiana State Department of Public Health (ISDH), in response to a Plain Dealer request Wednesday.

"This is an evolving situation. We will issue a statement if Indiana has a case confirmed. Right now the majority of persons under investigation are testing negative for novel coronavirus, so it's more helpful to inform the public once a case is confirmed," stated Greta Sanderson, senior communications manager, in response to a Plain Dealer request earlier this month. "The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is leading the state's

efforts to educate Hoosiers about the 2019 novel coronavirus that originated in China, ensuring that the public, healthcare providers and local health departments have the latest information available to keep themselves and their communities healthy."

One Hoosier who recently traveled to China was on self-quarantine by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines earlier this month, stated Sanderson.

"That individual is not symptomatic, and all appropriate measures are being taken. No additional

information about the individual will be provided due to privacy laws," stated Sanderson.

O'Malley wouldn't answer directly regarding this case, but reiterated there were no current suspected cases.

"There continue to be no confirmed cases of 2019 novel coronavirus in Indiana at this time," stated Gov. Eric J. Holcomb. "At my direction, the Indiana State Department of Health is working in close coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as

See VIRUS, page A6

Wabash Marketplace announces March First Friday details

The theme will be 'Hooray for Hollywood' to celebrate Eagles Theatre

STAFF REPORT

Organized by Wabash Marketplace, First Friday encourages the community to celebrate in downtown Wabash from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 6, according to a press release.

"Downtown will be buzzing with activities," stated the release. "This free event features downtown shopping, food, live music and kids' activities."

The theme for March is "Hooray for Hollywood" to celebrate Eagles Theatre.

Free public tours of Eagles Theatre will be available from 5 to 7:30 p.m. and a special showing of Wizard of Oz at 8 p.m.

Activities on Miami Street include free popcorn at the New Journey Church booth. Wabash Marketplace is hosting a Wizard of Oz photo opportunity. Register to win an Eagles Theatre giveaway at Lundquist Realty booth and visit the "Hollywood Walk of Fame." Vendors include Paparazzi Jewelry and Payne's Fish & Chips food truck. "Fun on Miami Street" is sponsored in honor of Crossroads Bank's 100th Anniversary.

Come hungry to sample all of the food offerings: Downtown Nutrition will feature their signature teas and shakes. Market Street Grill will be serving dinner and drinks. Modoc's Market will have hot and cold beverages and light snacks. Oh, My Cakes! will have treats. Pizza King will have specials.

Visit all of the options at Charley Creek Inn including Twenty, Wine & Cheese Shoppe including beer flights and wine slushies, and Ice Cream & Candy Shoppe. Dinnertainment is available in the Charley Creek Inn Ballroom with "Death by Chocolate" presented by Wabash Area Community Theater.

Tickets are \$30 and must

See MARKETPLACE, page A2



Photo by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

Taking the oath

Probationary firefighter and EMT Wesley Herrera sworn in

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

At Monday's Wabash City Council Meeting, Wesley Herrera, Wabash Fire Department probationary fire-

fighter and EMT, was sworn in by Mayor Scott Long.

After his swearing-in, Herrera said he had moved to Wabash just recently from Marion.

He said this type of job was something he always wanted to do.

"Just the public service, just helping the community and helping people," he said.

Herrera said he graduated from college with a bachelor's degree in criminal

justice because he knew he "wanted to do something that was in public service."

"And then I really just fell in love with the firefighter field," he said.

Herrera said he took EMT class and earned that certificate as well as some other firefighter courses.

"Everybody that's on the fire department is firefighters and then you can either be an EMT or a paramedic depending on what you've achieved so

far. Everybody on Wabash is a paramedic so I'll be going to paramedic school in January," he said.

Herrera said paramedic school would take about two years. As far as what he was expecting the most difficult part to be, his answer was simple.

"Probably just the actual classwork," he said.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

See MARKETPLACE, page A2

Over \$60M available to groups providing services to crime victims

Federal funds offered through Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

STAFF REPORT

Through the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI), more than \$60 million is available in federal funds to support public and nonprofit organizations that provide services to Indiana crime victims, according to a press release.

This is part of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance program and funded by the federal Crime Victims Fund, which is financed

through the fines and penalties paid by convicted federal offenders.

VOCA grants can be used for a variety of purposes, ranging from victim advocacy to therapy to legal support. They can also be used to pay for strategic planning or cover certain administrative costs, such as salaries, benefits and training for staff, to name a few.

While the full list is outlined in the request for proposals, priority will be given to projects that support underserved violent crime victims and victims of child abuse, domestic violence or sexual assault.

To be eligible, organizations must have a documented history of providing services to crime victims and have at least 25 percent of their

funding come from outside sources (other than the Crime Victims Fund).

For all projects, a 20 percent match is required, and services must be provided at no cost to the victim. Also, volunteers must be utilized as part of the proposal, and victims' identities must be protected at all times.

If selected, organizations will be reimbursed throughout the life of the grant, which begins on Oct. 1, 2020, and ends Sept. 30, 2022.

Applications must be submitted electronically through IntelliGrants by 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

Visit www.cji.in.gov for additional rules, requirements, exceptions and special circumstances regarding the 2020-2022 VOCA grants.

Ivy Tech partners with Manchester University pharmacy program

Space to be reserved for Ivy Tech Honors College graduates

STAFF REPORT

Ivy Tech Community College and Manchester University are partnering to create opportunities for Ivy Tech Honors College students, according to a press release.

Manchester is now reserving two seats annually in its Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) or its dual degree program that grants a Pharm.D. and a Master of Science in Pharmacogenomics in the same four-year period for qualified Ivy Tech Honors College graduates.

A Fort Wayne honors program student is the first Ivy Tech student to

pursue the new pathway.

To qualify, honors students must complete 60 hours of required courses at Ivy Tech and complete the application process for admissions to the Manchester pharmacy program according to the established guidelines. Career options for students who complete this program include management at pharmacies, clinical specialists, research and inpatient and outpatient care within health systems.

"Manchester's innovative dual degree program combines an emphasis on patient-centered care with a Pharm.D. degree and a master's degree in pharmacogenomics. Pharmacogenomics is a cutting-edge science that uses an individual's

See IVY TECH, page A2

Grandfather to plead guilty in toddler's cruise ship death

By RICK CALLAHAN

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indiana man charged in his young granddaughter's fatal fall from a cruise ship's open window in Puerto Rico agreed to plead guilty in her July 2019 death, explaining that he was doing so "to try to help end part of this nightmare for my family."

Salvatore "Sam" Anello, who was holding Chloe Wiegand when she slipped from his grasp and fell about 150 feet to her death from an open 11th-floor window on Royal Caribbean Cruises' ship, filed change of plea documents Monday in a Puerto Rico court in which he agreed to plead guilty to a negligent homicide charge in the 18-month-old's death, said the family's attorney, Michael Winkleman.

Under the plea agreement, Anello wouldn't serve time behind bars and would serve his probation in Indiana, Winkleman said Wednesday, adding that a hearing in which a judge would consider the plea hadn't been scheduled.

"I took a plea deal today to try to help end part of this nightmare for my family, if possible," Anello, of Valparaiso, said in his statement. "The support they continue to give me has been beyond overwhelming and I can't tell you how grateful I am for them."

Chloe Wiegand fell to her July 8 death from Royal Ca-

ribbean Cruises' Freedom of the Seas ship, which was docked in Puerto Rico. Anello was charged last year in Puerto Rico with negligent homicide in her death and initially pleaded not guilty.

Anello, 51, has insisted that he did not know the window was open when he lifted Chloe up to it, saying he did so to allow her to bang on the glass like she did at her brother's hockey games. He told "CBS This Morning" in November that he was trying to stand Chloe on the window's railing when she fell out of the window. He also said he is colorblind and that may be why he didn't realize the tinted window was open.

"From my point of view, at the moment the accident happened, it was as if this wall of protective glass disappeared. I was in complete disbelief," Anello said in Wednesday's statement. "It was a nightmare of the likes I could never have imagined before. I wasn't drinking and I wasn't dangling her out of a window. I just wanted to knock on the glass with her as we did together so many times before."

Chloe Wiegand's parents sued Royal Caribbean in December, accusing the operator of negligence in her death by allowing the 11th-floor window in the ship's children's play area to be open.

Winkleman said Anello's proposed guilty plea in Chloe's death would have

"little or no effect at all on the civil lawsuit," noting that Anello is not a party to that case.

"He's not a party to that case and therefore it is not relevant," Winkleman said.

Royal Caribbean Cruises has said in court filings that surveillance video shows that Anello leaned out an 11th-floor window in a children's play area on the ship for about eight seconds before he lifted his granddaughter to the window. Investigators say the girl slipped from Anello's hands and plummeted to her death.

The Granger girl's family, though, claimed in a January court filing responding to the cruise line's allegations that it would have been "physically impossible" for Anello to lean out of that window.

Winkleman said Anello's decision to agree to plea guilty "is in the best interests of the family so that they can close this horrible chapter and turn their focus to mourning Chloe."

Winkleman said the family would also be focusing on "fighting for cruise passenger safety by raising awareness about the need for all common carriers to adhere to window fall prevention laws designed to protect children from falling from windows."

A message seeking comment on Anello's plea agreement was left Wednesday with a spokeswoman for Royal Caribbean Cruises.

Utility to pay \$53M for blasts that damaged homes, killed 1

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER

Associated Press

BOSTON — A utility company will pay the largest criminal fine ever imposed for breaking a federal pipeline safety law — \$53 million — and plead guilty to causing a series of natural gas explosions in Massachusetts that killed one person and damaged dozens of homes, federal officials said Wednesday.

Columbia Gas of Massachusetts has agreed to plead guilty to violating the Pipeline Safety Act and pay the fine to resolve a federal investigation into the explosions that rocked three communities in the Merrimack Valley, north of Boston, in September 2018.

"Today's settlement is a sobering reminder that if you decide to put profits before public safety, you will pay the consequences," FBI Agent Joseph Bonavolonta said.

The company said in an emailed statement that it takes full responsibility for the disaster.

"Today's resolution with the U.S. Attorney's Office is an important part of ad-

dressing the impact," the company wrote. "Our focus remains on enhancing safety, regaining the trust of our customers and ensuring that quality service is delivered."

The company's parent, Merrillville, Indiana-based NiSource Inc., has also agreed to try to sell the company and cease any gas pipeline and distribution activities in Massachusetts, according to court documents. Any profit from the sale of Columbia Gas of Massachusetts will be handed over to the federal government.

"We knew that one of the things those communities wanted was for Columbia Gas to simply go away," U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling told reporters.

"The tragedy was to such an extent that it would be extremely difficult for the populations in those towns to trust this company going forward, so that was one of our priorities when we struck this deal," he said.

The explosions and fires outraged the communities of Lawrence, Andover and North Andover,

where thousands of homes and businesses went without gas service for weeks, and months in some cases, during the winter. Residents and public officials lashed out at the company for not adequately responding and called for officials to be held accountable.

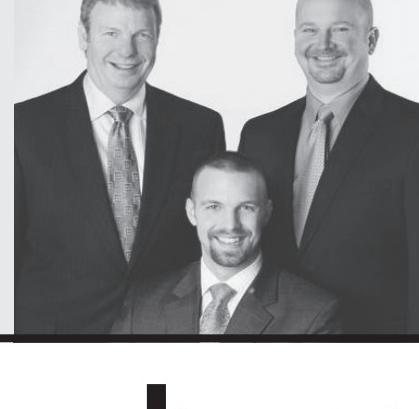
Leonel Rondon, 18, died when a chimney collapsed on his vehicle in the driveway of a friend's home — hours after he had gotten his driver's license. About two dozen others were injured, and dozens of buildings were damaged or destroyed.

A series of class action lawsuits stemming from the explosions has settled for \$143 million. The settlement awaits final approval from a judge.

The National Transportation Safety Board blamed the explosions on overpressurized gas lines, saying the company failed to account for critical pressure sensors as workers replaced century-old cast-iron pipes in Lawrence. That omission caused high-pressure gas to flood the neighborhood's distribution system at excessive levels.

Obituaries

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World's oldest man, who said secret was smiling, dies at 112

By YURI KAGEYAMA

Associated Press

TOKYO — A Japanese man who received his certificate as the world's oldest man with a raised fist and big smiles earlier this month has died at 112.

Guinness World Records had given the certificate to

Chitetsu Watanabe on Feb. 12. The organization and the funeral home handling his services confirmed Tuesday he had died Sunday. No cause was given.

He had not been able to eat recently and developed a fever and difficulty breathing a couple of days before his death, Japan's nationally

circulated newspaper Mainichi reported, citing family sources.

Watanabe is survived by his five children, 12 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, Mainichi said.

Watanabe's family did not immediately answer calls

to their home.

Watanabe was born in 1907 and worked in Taiwan for 18 years. After returning to Niigata, northern Japan, he worked for the prefectural government until retirement.

He grew fruit and vegetables on the family farm and loved cream puffs and

bonsai, the Japanese traditional art of raising small sculpted trees.

He used to say the secret to longevity was to keep smiling.

Guinness in Japan offered its condolences to his family.

The oldest living person is also Japanese, Kane Tanaka, a 117-year-old woman.

Clive Cussler, adventure writer, dies at 88

By HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

NEW YORK — Clive Cussler, the million-selling adventure writer and real-life thrill-seeker who wove personal details and spectacular fantasies into his page-turning novels about underwater explorer Dirk Pitt, has died, his publisher said Wednesday.

Cussler died Monday at his home in Scottsdale, Arizona, said Alexis Welby, spokeswoman for publisher Penguin Random House. He was 88. The cause was not disclosed.

Cussler dispatched Pitt and pal Al Giordino on exotic missions highlighted by shipwrecks, treachery, espionage and beautiful women, in popular works including "Cyclops," "Night Probe!" and

his commercial breakthrough, "Raise the Titanic!"

Cussler was an Illinois native who was raised in Southern California and lived in Arizona for most of his final years, but he sent Pitt around the globe in plots that ranged from the bold to the incredible. "The Treasure" features an aspiring Aztec despot who murders an American envoy, the hijacking of a plane carrying the United Nations secretary-general and soldiers from ancient Rome looting the Library of Alexandria.

In "Iceberg," the presidents of French Guiana and the Dominican Republic are the ones in danger, during a visit to Disneyland. In "Sahara," a race across the desert somehow leads to new information about the assassination of

Abraham Lincoln.

"Again and again, Dirk Pitt, working for the fictional National Underwater and Marine Agency, must find a sunken vessel and retrieve some artifact," Mark Schone, summarizing Cussler's novels, wrote in The New York Times in 2004. "Evil forces, be they Commies or Blofeldian madmen, try to stop him. Along the way Pitt saves himself, the world and the damsel of the moment."

"He can definitely spin the tall tales and is a master of fiction. But that doesn't mean I buy into his alleged discovery claims," Dr. E. Lee Spence wrote on his blog in 2011. Spence, a prominent underwater archaeologist feuded with Cussler over which of them recovered a

Confederate submarine.

Born an only child in 1931 in Aurora, Illinois, and raised in Alhambra, California, Cussler's name and writing persona have the air of a pseudonym, but he was born with his moniker, named for the British actor Clive Brook.

He studied for two years at Pasadena City College before enlisting in the Air Force and serving as a mechanic and flight engineer during the Korean War.

In 1955, he married Barbara Knight, with whom he had three children. Through much of the 1960s, he worked in advertising, as a copywriter and creative director. Among the better known slogans he helped coin — "It's stronger than dirt," for an Ajax laundry detergent campaign.

In his free time, he was writing fiction and moonlighting at a skin-diving equipment shop, where his wife suggested he work to help gather material for his novels.

"When creating advertising, I had always looked at the competition and wondered what I could conceive that was totally different," Cussler said in an interview included in "Dirk Pitt Revealed," a nonfiction book released in 1998. "(James) Bond was becoming incredibly popular through the movies, and I knew I couldn't match Ian Fleming's style and prose. So I was determined not to write about a detective, secret agent or undercover investigator or deal in murder mysteries. My hero's adventures would be based on and under water."

Long was a past president of the American Bandmasters Association and is a member of the organization's conductors hall of fame. He served as Troy's director of bands for more than three decades beginning in 1965, and the school's marching band performed at two presidential inaugurations during Long's tenure.

Troy's current director, Mark Walker, said Long built the band into one of national prominence.

"He has produced thousands of band directors and musicians who have gone on to careers throughout the United States in all areas of music and music education," Walker said in a statement.

Long, an Alabama native, entered music education after serving as an Army band member in World War II.

Satellite on empty gets new life after space docking

By MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL — A communication satellite almost out of fuel has gotten a new life after the first space docking of its kind.

Northrop Grumman and Intelsat announced the successful link-up nearly 22,500 miles above Earth on Wednesday. It's the first time two commercial satellites have joined in orbit like this.

The recently launched satellite — Northrop Grumman's Mission Extension Vehicle, or MEV-1 — will serve as a guide dog of sorts for its aging Intelsat companion.

Company officials called it a historic moment for space commerce, akin to the three-spacewalker capture of a wayward Intelsat satellite 28 years ago.

"We're pushing the boundaries of what many thought would be impossible," said Tom Wilson, president of SpaceLogistics, a subsidiary of Northrop Grumman.

"The impossible is now a reality. Today is a great example of that."

The Northrup Grumman satellite was launched from Kazakhstan in October. On Tuesday, it closed in on the 19-year-old Intelsat 901 satellite and clamped onto it. The duo will remain attached for the next five years.

This novel rescue was carried out at a slightly higher orbit to avoid jeopardizing other satellites if something had gone wrong. The Intelsat satellite was never designed for this kind of docking; officials said everything went well.

Once maneuvered back down into its operational orbit, the Intelsat satellite should resume operations in another month or two. MEV-1 will move on to another satellite in need once its five-year hitch is over.

Jean-Luc Froeliger, a vice president for Intelsat, said the satellite had just months of fuel remaining. It ended service late last year and was sent into the

slightly higher orbit for the docking.

Officials declined to say how much the operation cost or what future rescues might cost. Intelsat CEO Stephen Spengler said "there was a solid business case" for undertaking the salvage attempt with five more years of operation ahead for the satellite.

It's reminiscent of another Intelsat rescue that unfolded closer to home.

Spacewalking astronauts captured the wayward Intelsat 603 satellite during Endeavour's maiden voyage in 1992. It took three men to grab the satellite with their gloved hands in perhaps the most dramatic shuttle mission of all time.

An attached rocket motor ended up propelling the satellite from a low altitude to its proper orbit.

Northrop Grumman envisions satellite refueling and other robotic repairs in another five to 10 years. In the meantime, a second rescue satellite will be launched later this year.

Spacewalking astronauts placed, on the forehead or on the head, the feeling is the same, it's uplifting," Editha Lorenzo, a 49-year-old mother of two wearing a face mask, told The Associated Press in Manila.

At the Vatican, Francis held his general audience as usual in St. Peter's Square and offered prayers to people sickened by the virus and the medical personnel treating them. In the crowd of thousands, a handful had masks on their faces.

"I want to again express my closeness to those suffering from the coronavirus

High note: Lockhart marks 25 years as Boston Pops conductor

By WILLIAM J. KOLE

Associated Press

BOSTON — Strike up the band: Keith Lockhart is marking 25 years as the conductor of "America's Orchestra."

The Boston Pops said Wednesday its 2020 season will pay special tribute to Lockhart, its second longest-tenured conductor after the legendary Arthur Fiedler.

Only Fiedler, who conducted for nearly half a century, has been more of a fixture at the Pops. Founded in 1885, the orchestra is known nationally for its July Fourth concerts on the banks of the Charles River, where fireworks back up the percussion section.

"I'm thrilled and humbled to have reached my 25th anniversary season as conductor of what is truly the one-and-only Boston Pops," Lockhart said.

Lockhart was just 35 and a musical wunderkind when he took the baton in 1995, following in the footsteps of "Star Wars"

composer John Williams and Fiedler, who conducted from 1930 until his death in 1979.

Since then, Lockhart has led the Pops in more than 2,000 concerts worldwide, including the 2002 Super Bowl and the 2008 NBA Finals, and has shared the stage with several hundred guest artists ranging from Elton John and former President Bill Clinton to astronaut Buzz Aldrin and Big Bird.

There have been 45 national tours to more than 150 cities in 38 states, and four tours to Japan and South Korea.

"There is no real encore to this job," the Grammy-nominated conductor said in a 2015 interview with The Associated Press.

On May 6, the comedy duo Penn & Teller kicks off the new season at Boston's Symphony Hall, the home the Pops share with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Broadway stars Megan Hilty and Jason Danieley will perform with the Pops on June 2-4, and Sting will

be a special guest June 9. Reflecting on Lockhart's tenure, the Pops poked good-natured fun at its mention on TV's "The Simpsons," when Homer and his family took a "hatecation" to Boston — only to fall in love with the city that has a "Symphony AND a Pops."

Before coming to the Pops, the Poughkeepsie, New York, native was associate conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony and Cincinnati Pops orchestras and music director of the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra.

"Through the years, Keith Lockhart has embraced Boston," an orchestra statement said. "And in return, Boston has embraced him."

Last year, while the Pops were touring in Florida, Lockhart invited student survivors from the 2018 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland to perform a song — composed by two of them — honoring the community's resilience.

Pope observes usual Ash Wednesday customs in time of virus

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis celebrated the Ash Wednesday ritual that marks the opening of the Catholic Church's Lenten season in traditional fashion while greeting the public in Rome as other Masses were canceled in northern Italy over fears of the coronavirus outbreak.

Francis and a long line of priests, bishops and cardinals walked in a procession through Rome's Aventine

hill into the 5th-century Santa Sabina basilica for a late-afternoon Mass. Neither the priests nor the faithful wore face masks, but Rome has largely been spared the virus as Italy's national case count grew to 400.

Other Catholic countries took Ash Wednesday precautions. In the Philippines — Asia's only majority Roman Catholic country — priests sprinkled ashes on the heads of the faithful rather than making the mark of the cross on their foreheads to avoid physical contact.

"Wherever the ash is

placed, on the forehead or on the head, the feeling is the same, it's uplifting," Editha Lorenzo, a 49-year-old mother of two wearing a face mask, told The Associated Press in Manila.

and the health care workers who are treating them, as well as the civil authorities and all those who are working to help patients and stop the contagion," Francis said.

Francis kissed at least one child as he looped through the square in his popemobile and made a point of shaking hands with the faithful sitting in the front row. Usually, he only waves. He also greeted prelates with a handshake at the beginning and end of the gathering, but it appeared most clergy were refraining from kissing Francis' ring

or embracing him, as they normally would do.

In his remarks, he urged the faithful to put down their cellphones during Lent and pick up the Bible instead.

"It is the time to give up useless words, chatter, rumors, gossip, and talk and to speak directly to the Lord," he said.

While Francis went ahead with his usual Ash Wednesday plans, the patriarchate of Venice canceled the Mass scheduled for St. Mark's Basilica, after a handful of elderly people in the lagoon city tested posi-

tive for the virus.

The surrounding Veneto region is one of two northern Italian regions where clusters of cases emerged in Italy. The other is Lombardy.

In the Philippines, the Rev. Victorino Cueto, rector of the popular National Shrine of our Mother of Perpetual Help in the Manila metropolis, said the practice of sprinkling ash on heads of devotees was a precaution to prevent the spread of infections but actually is an old tradition based on the Old Testament.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

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To email any
Indiana lawmaker,
go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

"Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God."

Acts 5:38-39

OUR TAKE

Coronavirus fear sickens stock market, spreads need to diversify manufacturing

Fears that the COVID-19 virus might be worse than anticipated prompted a major sell-off in stocks Monday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 3.6 percent, or 1,031.61 points, its third thousand-point drop in its history.

Other indexes were down by similar amounts. With the market value of all U.S. stocks estimated at over \$30 trillion, a loss like this means that roughly \$1 trillion in equity disappeared. Poof!

If previous outbreaks are any indication, there could be more losses, at least in the short term. The severe acute respiratory syndrome and the Zika virus were blamed for driving markets down by 13 percent, while the Middle East respiratory syndrome, bird flu and Ebola outbreaks had resulted in losses in the 6 percent to 7 percent range. In all these cases, markets rebounded.

Outbreaks are the new normal

No one knows what the stock

market will do over time. But we do know that these kind of outbreaks look like the new normal, and that they generally impact certain parts of the world more than others.

For this reason, businesses ought to ask themselves whether it makes sense to be so reliant on one country for their manufacturing and supply chain needs.

When individuals invest their savings, they are counseled to be highly diversified among stocks, bonds, real estate and other assets. That same logic should apply to multinational corporations when they decide where to invest in manufacturing capacity.

In recent years, many have flooded into China, thanks to its seemingly bottomless labor pool and light regulations. Now, many of these corporations must surely be regretting their absence of diversification.

For the sake of America's health

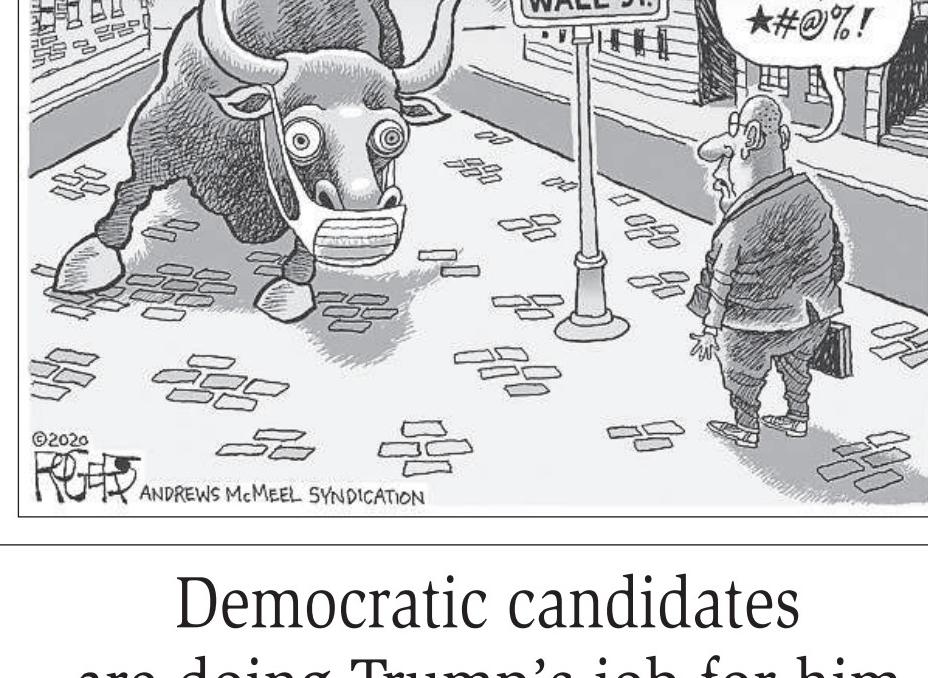
According to the American

Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, nearly 4 out of 5 U.S. companies with operations in China now lack the staff to run at full capacity.

For companies that sell auto parts or cellphones, pressed steel or whatever, the loss of manufacturing capacity in China could be a big deal. For makers of medicines, the reliance on China could become critical. According to some estimates, 80 percent of the active ingredients in American medicines are made in China.

This concentration had already set off alarm bells among both national security experts and U.S. health officials. In recent years, multiple medications made in whole or in part in China have had to be recalled due to contamination during the manufacturing process.

Now the new coronavirus should be cause for even more concern. In fact, it could be the final straw that forces manufacturers to become less reliant on a single nation.



Democratic candidates are doing Trump's job for him

President Trump's playbook for the general election is obvious: demonize the Democrat who runs against him.

Democratic primary hopefuls need to stop doing the job for him.

Attacking isn't the only way to campaign: This should be the cycle when the difference between "drawing contrasts" and "going negative" becomes meaningful, not just rhetorical.

Somebody, eventually, is going to win the Democratic nomination. If the candidates are sincere when they say this is the most important election of our lifetimes and ousting Trump must be the top priority – and I believe they are – then how does it make sense to generate so much fodder for Trump campaign ads in the fall?

Look, I know that politics ain't kumbaya. It would be insane to go through the grueling experience of running for president without trying to win, and that means convincing voters you're the best for the job. There's a difference, though, between making the most effective case for yourself and arguing that your opponents are so flawed as to be disqualified for office.

Rather than being nailed to the wall for something they did or said 20 years ago, the candidates need to be given time and space to evolve, just as the nation has evolved. Former president Barack Obama, you will recall, opposed marriage equality until the relatively late date of 2012 – long after it was a matter of faith for the pro-

gressive wing of the party.

Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., presently the front-runner, is under withering attack for supposedly being simultaneously the second coming of Karl Marx, a tool of the National Rifle Association and the evil Saruman who marshals legions of online Orcs against his foes. In reality, he is a veteran U.S. senator who generally, though not always, votes the Democratic Party line and who has told the trolls to knock it off.

Michael Bloomberg is being pilloried as a one-time racist, inveterate sexist and Republican-at-heart who is using his vast wealth to try to purchase first the Democratic nomination and then the presidency – all of which is basically true. But he also has a sterling record of advocacy and accomplishment on some issues about which progressives care deeply, including climate change and gun control. And if he wins the nomination, his flaws will have to be measured against the prospect of four more years of Trump.

And Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., is being slammed for some decisions she made as a prosecutor, including a case in which a 16-year-old was given a life sentence for murder after a questionable police investigation. It strikes me as a likely miscarriage of justice, but it really must be viewed in the context of Klobuchar's overall record as a prosecutor. One dodgy case does not seem to me disqualifying. Most importantly, Klobuchar has called for the old evidence in the case to be reviewed and new evidence sought.

That same sense of balance is important in evaluating candidates who show other

weaknesses. Joe Biden lacks sharpness at his rallies and in the debates and thus far has run a mediocre campaign.

But he shows humanity and compassion in a way that other candidates struggle to do. And despite authoring the crime bill that led to mass incarceration, he has a genuine connection with some key Democratic constituencies, especially African Americans, that could help drive turnout on Election Day.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., seems to have lost traction with the media after middling showings in both Iowa and New Hampshire. But the breadth and depth of her grass-roots campaign are truly impressive, and her life story – from a hard-knocks beginning in Oklahoma to a Harvard professorship and ultimately to the Senate – is inspiring.

And Pete Buttigieg has very little experience in government, has had trouble gaining traction among African American voters and has a tendency – as did Obama early in his 2008 campaign – to lecture rather than speak from the heart. But does anyone seriously doubt he is smart enough to be president?

As the candidates make their cases, they should ask voters to look at what really matters. Purity tests are less useful than proof a rival has the ability to learn and to grow. Differences in style and emphasis are not mortal sins.

The party will have to unite – not superficially, for the duration of the balloon drop at the convention in Milwaukee, but genuinely. So dial back the hissing and spitting, people. It only helps Trump.

Eugene Robinson's email address is eugenerobinson@washpost.com.

Garage 'prosperity'

What happens when a political machine takes over your city's economic development planning?

By JASON ARP

When a political machine runs your town, you get results that may not make much economic sense but are nonetheless predictable – predictably bad.

Who, for example, would spend the equivalent of \$220 a month to lease a space for which they intend to get revenue equivalent to \$65 per month? The Fort Wayne Redevelopment Commission, that's who. During its Feb. 10 meeting, this group of city planners and overseers voted to approve a pair of long-term leases on two garages encapsulated within mixed-use buildings that include retail, office and residential units along the city's riverfront.

On paper, these will be beautiful facilities that should enhance the heart of the downtown corridor replacing vacant lots where 19th century factories once stood. But a financial detail of the two projects is not so rosy.

Project 1 Estimate – \$68 million

15 Townhomes
217 apartments
12,000 square foot commercial
651 parking spaces

Project 2 Estimate – \$89 million

7 town homes
222 apartments
27,000 square foot commercial
913 parking spaces

The terms of the leases on these projects are non-economic, ludicrously so. The city, through the Redevelopment Commission, will pay \$2.4 million in year one for the larger project and \$1.675 million for the smaller, where these amounts are tied to a 2 percent per annum escalator. That means the total payment for the base rent is \$4.075 million in the first year, where it increases by 2 percent a year until reaching \$6.55 million in the 25th and last year of the contract. These payments accumulate to \$130 million in total over the 25-year term.

Moreover, this is a "triple-net" lease, so the city pays utilities and taxes on the facility as well. The expected revenues (many locked in as long-term leases to the developer-apartment owners) are about \$1.2 million a year. These revenues also scale at 2 percent, so it will be \$1.9 million by the final year, totaling about \$40 million. The nearly \$3 million contractual annual loss grows to \$4.5 million by the final year of the lease. Over the term of the lease, the city is paying \$91 million more than expected parking lease rates. Discounting these payments at 5 percent at the end of year the totals come to a present value of \$72 million in payments over 25 years, with a present value of \$21 million in revenue in the same time period.

To summarize, there is an overall loss of \$51 million in today's dollars. Nearly one-third of the \$157-million project package is funded by taxpayers through property and income taxes making up operating losses over the 25-year period. The developer has minimal risk, bonding for a 25-year loan for only the present value of the lease proceeds. The rest is funded by a combination of additional bank loans, state tax-credits and developer equity.

The cash flows of the projects, then, at market prices with standard expense assumptions and a generous 5 percent discount rate, support a market value of a mere \$90 million. While this is not the most egregious overpricing of a project we've seen, it reflects that the over spending is made up for with government subsidies in the form of a wildly overpriced pair of garages and a state tax-credit.

The garages are just another venture in a long line of examples of how a group, a political machine, gaining control of municipal government, can meddle in the local economy, trying to force outcomes that may be superficially appealing but that no entrepreneur would be willing to finance on his or her own.

Another, more recent, example of such machination is the subsidized restoration of the former General Electric site in Fort Wayne. There, a combination of nearly \$200 million of local, state and federal subsidies are being used to facilitate the move of a company headquarters a short 6 miles from adjacent New Haven.

Is that an appropriate use of taxpayer money? The end result is that taxpayers made it possible for a politically selected developer to construct and own apartments, commercial offices and garage space that may be lucrative at a level of cost that free markets would not otherwise support. Again, no private commercial property owner would rent space for more than three times what they expect to receive in revenue.

But this is what we have come to expect. The cabal that runs the city rewards political contributors and key "stakeholders" in the industries that benefit the most from over-spending on mal-investment in downtown real estate, namely law firms that represent the participants, architects-engineers, construction management firms and the various suppliers of concrete, rebar and the like.

As long as the music keeps playing, all is well for those included in the game. For without an honest mass media, the public will be no wiser. However, when the economy eventually slows and the mal-investments are laid bare, it will be the taxpayer who suffers.

The long-term capital leases and bonds, regardless of declining tax revenue in a cyclical recession, will need to be paid. That means either a tax rate increase or fewer police and firefighters, and fewer street repairs, as the city cuts essential services.

There will be political turmoil but a new council and a new administration won't be able to fix it all. The attention of prosecutors and grand juries may be needed to keep this kind of racketeering from reoccurring.

Jason Arp, for nine years a trader in mortgaged-backed securities for Bank of America, was recently reelected to a second term representing the 4th District on the Fort Wayne City Council. Arp has served on the Redevelopment Commission, the Community Legacy Investment Committee and as co-chair of the Finance Committee of the Common Council.

Food



Provided photo by Lynda Balslev for Tastefood

There's no better time for a pot of beef stew than winter, and when March rolls around with St. Patrick's Day hype and festivities, why not add an Irish twist with a splash of Irish stout?

Put a little Irish (stout)

in your stew

By LYNDY BALSLEV

There's no better time for a pot of beef stew than winter, and when March rolls around with St. Patrick's Day hype and festivities, why not add an Irish twist with a splash of Irish stout? This is a no-nonsense and comforting beef stew that's guaranteed to warm and fill your belly, whether you're Irish or not. As most stews go, it's a humble and forgiving recipe. Cubes of beef slow-cook and braise to melting tenderness in a meaty broth, brightened by tomato and fortified with a generous glug of stout beer. The stout makes its mark in the stew with its sweet and malty notes of chocolate and coffee, adding depth and richness to the simple beef stock.

Stout has a hoppy bitterness, so you need add only 8 ounces to the recipe for effect — which conveniently provides leftovers for drinking while you cook. This stew is also swimming with chunky root vegetables, which add earthy sweetness and round out the beefy component, permitting you to call this a one-dish meal, vegetables and all.

You can make this stew in one day, but if you have time and can plan ahead, I encourage you to make it the day before and chill it overnight. Not only does this allow the flavors to meld and develop, the fat will have time to rise and solidify on the stew. The next day you can simply lift off and discard the collected fat. Feel free to add your favorite root vegetables to the stew. I always include carrots, and then add a combination of celery root, parsnip and/or rutabaga.

Irish Beef and Guinness Stew

Active Time: 30 minutes
Total Time: 3 1/2 to 4 hours
Yield: Serves 6
2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
3 pounds beef chuck, excess

fat trimmed, cut into 1 1/2-inch pieces

Salt

Freshly ground black pepper
1 medium onion, chopped
4 cloves garlic, chopped
1 cup stout beer, such as Guinness
1/2 cup tomato paste
3 cups beef (or chicken) stock
2 teaspoons dried thyme
2 bay leaves
2 carrots, sliced 1/4-inch thick
1 1/2 pounds root vegetables, such as rutabaga, parsnip, celery root, peeled and cut into 3/4-inch chunks

Preheat the oven to 300 degrees.

Heat 1 tablespoon oil over medium-high heat in a Dutch oven or ovenproof pot with a lid. Season the beef all over with salt and pepper.

In batches, brown the beef on all sides, 6 to 8 minutes.

Transfer the meat to a plate and repeat with the remaining beef.

Add the onion to the pot and saute until soft, scraping up any brown bits, 2 to 3 minutes.

Add the garlic and saute until fragrant, about 30 seconds.

Add the beer and bring to a simmer, and then add the tomato paste and stir to blend.

Return the beef and any accumulated juices to the pot, and then add the stock, thyme, bay leaves, 1 teaspoon salt, and 1/2 teaspoon black pepper. The meat should be just covered with

liquid. If not, add additional stock to cover.

Bring the liquid to a boil and then turn off the heat. Cover the pot, transfer to the oven, and cook until the meat is tender but not falling apart, 2 to 2 1/2 hours, stirring occasionally. (The meat will continue to cook once the vegetables have been added.) Remove from the oven.

(At this point, the stock may be refrigerated. Let the stew cool slightly, then cover and refrigerate overnight. The next day, remove the stew from the refrigerator at least 1 1/2 hours before serving and heat the oven to 300 degrees.

Remove and discard any accumulated fat from the surface and gently reheat the stew in the oven before proceeding with the next step.)

While the stew is cooking (or reheating), heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the carrots and root vegetables and lightly season with salt.

Saute the vegetables until they brighten in color and are crisp-tender, 3 to 4 minutes.

Add the vegetables to the stew. Return the pot to the oven and cook, partially covered, until the meat is fork-tender and the sauce is slightly reduced, about 1 more hour, stirring occasionally.

Remove the stew from the oven and taste for seasoning. Serve hot with mashed potatoes.

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VIRUS

From page A1

well as other federal, state and local partners, to share information and monitor this evolving public health situation. While there is no need for immediate concern, the state will remain on alert to ensure Hoosiers are protected."

State Health Commissioner Kris Box, M.D., FACOG, said information about the novel coronavirus outbreak is changing rapidly and encouraged Hoosiers to check the ISDH website for the most current information.

"We learn something new every day about this illness," stated Box. "While the news reports are concerning, I want to reassure Hoosiers that the majority of the patients under investigation in the U.S. so far have tested negative for novel coronavirus and remind them that seasonal influenza poses a greater health risk at this time."

PULSE

From page A1

Somerset Lions Club to hold euchre event

The Somerset Lions Club is set to host a euchre event Saturday, Feb. 29 in the Somerset Community Building. The entry fee is \$10. Registration is from 1 to 1:45 p.m. Play begins at 2 p.m. There will be cash prizes for Most Loners, Highest Score, Second Highest Score, 50-50 Drawing and two drawings for the entry fee. Soft drinks, hot dogs, cookies and chips will be available for a donation. Proceeds will support Somerset projects.

Eagles Lodge plans concert

The Fraternal Order of the Eagles has planned a concert of the Steel Rail Band at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 29 at 140 Walter St. There is no cost, alcohol will be available for purchase and all attendees must be 18 years or older.

Human coronaviruses most commonly spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets released into the air by coughing and sneezing;
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands;
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it and then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands; and

- Rarely, fecal contamination.

The best way to protect yourself from any respiratory illness, including the flu, is to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are

sick.

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

If you are a healthcare provider with a patient who is experiencing symptoms of novel coronavirus or an individual who has symptoms and recently traveled to China, please contact the ISDH Epidemiology Resource Center at 317-233-7125 (or 317-233-1325 after hours) or email epiresource@isdh.in.gov.

Visit the Indiana State Department of Health at www.StateHealth.in.gov, follow on Twitter at @StateHealthIN and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/StateHealth-IN.

CDC update

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was

first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China and which has now been detected in 37 locations internationally, including cases in the United States. The virus has been named "SARS-CoV-2" and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").

On Jan. 30, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern external icon" (PHEIC). On Jan. 31, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19, according to the CDC.

As of Wednesday, there were 12 travel-related confirmed cases, two person-to-person cases and 14 total confirmed cases, with 445 patients tested.

Source and spread of the virus

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in many different species of animals, including camels, cattle, cats and bats, according to the CDC.

"Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people such as with MERS-CoV, SARS-CoV, and now with this new virus (named SARS-CoV-2)," stated the CDC.

The SARS-CoV-2 virus is a betacoronavirus, like MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV. All three of these viruses have their origins in bats. The sequences from U.S. patients are similar to the one that China initially posted, suggesting a likely single, recent emergence of this virus from an animal reservoir.

"Early on, many of the patients in the COVID-19 outbreak in Wuhan, China had some link to a large seafood and live animal market, suggesting animal-to-person

spread. Later, a growing number of patients reportedly did not have exposure to animal markets, indicating person-to-person spread. Person-to-person spread has been reported outside China, including in the United States and other locations. Chinese officials report that sustained person-to-person spread in the community is occurring in China. Also, other destinations have apparent community spread, meaning some people have been infected who are not sure how or where they became infected," stated the CDC. "Imported cases of COVID-19 in travelers have been detected in the U.S. Person-to-person spread of COVID-19 also has been seen among close contacts of returned travelers from Wuhan, but at this time, this virus is not currently spreading in the community in the United States."

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Manchester hosts Spartan Smash high school eSports tourney

High school teams across the Midwest are invited to the Spartan Smash Invitational, a first-time eSports competition, set for Saturday, Feb. 29, on the North Manchester campus of Manchester University. Registration will close at 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28. The tournament bracket will be made available that Saturday morning. Competition is in Flory Auditorium at the Science Center. For more information and registration, visit <https://smash.gg/tournament/spartan-smash-invitational>.

Manchester to replace Sunday's film festival offering

Manchester University is unable to present "Visages, Villages (Faces, Places)" this Sunday. Instead of canceling the movie, it is being replaced with "Tazeka," a comedy about a young Moroccan man who uses secrets of cooking he learned from his grandmother

to leave home and pursue a career as a chef in Paris. It is set for 1 p.m. Sunday, March 1, in Cordier Auditorium. The film is free and open to the public. The showing is part of the Tournées Film Festival, a series of six films by francophone directors, through March 12 on its North Manchester campus.

Salamonie Senior Luncheon set for March 2

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon on Monday, March 2, at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Any-one age 50 or older is welcome to attend. UWIS interpretive naturalist Shelly Reed will present the "Civilian Conservation Corps of Indiana" through an engaging trivia presentation. The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Ham and beans will be provided. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their table service. A \$1 donation will be accepted. Reservations may be made

by calling 260-468-2127.

Salamonie Preschool offers 'S is for Spring'**March 3**

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "S is for Spring" 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Film festival continues March 3 at Manchester

Manchester University will present "120 Battements Par Minute" ("BPM – Beats Per Minute") at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3 in the Cordier Auditorium. The film is free and open to the public.

Employers invited to register for**Manchester Career Fair**

Employers are invited to meet students at the Manchester University career, internship and graduate school fair from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, at the upper level of the Jo Young Switzer Center on the North Manchester campus. Setup begins at 11:30 p.m. with lunch and informal networking. Each employer registered will receive a covered 6-foot table and two chairs. The cost to register is \$40 to \$50, depending on the type of employer. Fair sponsorship is also available for \$150. For more information and to register, visit <http://bit.ly/MUCareerFair2020>. Employers with questions may email CareerDevelopment@manchester.edu.

Peace studies expert delves into 'Harry Potter,' 'The Hunger Games' in Manchester speech
Siobhán McEvoy-Levy will speak about "Entertaining Peace in Youth Cultures: From Harry Potter to The Hunger Games" at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5 at the upper level of the Jo Young Switzer Center at the North Manchester campus of Manchester University. It is free and open to the public.

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Create glass-on-glass framed mosaic image inspired by nature

The multi-day classes instructed by local stained glass artist Katy Gray will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 5; Wednesday, March 11; Friday, March 13; Monday, March 16; and Tuesday, March 17, at Salamonie Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Participants should plan to attend each meeting. The cost is \$60 per person. Each participant will choose one: either a bee, red-tailed hawk or box turtle for their project. All materials will be supplied. All classes require advance registration with a deadline of Sunday, March 1. Space is limited. Call 260-468-2127 for registration or questions.

IndianaUnclaimed.gov

Pursuant to IC-32-34-1-28(a) legal notice is hereby given to the people and entities listed below who appear to be owners of unclaimed property, which is presumed to be abandoned and has been recently reported to Indiana for the year 2019 only. Please visit www IndianaUnclaimed.gov for complete list of all properties currently held in the protective custody of the Attorney General's Office.

Unclaimed Property is not physical real estate or vehicles. It is money or safekeeping property from accounts that have registered inactive. Common examples include lost or forgotten bank balances, unpaid wages, insurance proceeds, safe deposit box contents, stocks & dividends, and utility deposits. Safe Deposit Box contents can be purchased through public auction at www IndianaUnclaimed.gov.

A person or entity having a legal interest in these properties may obtain more information by visiting www IndianaUnclaimed.gov or calling the Attorney General's Unclaimed Property Division at 1-866-462-5246. All claims must be supported by proof of rightful ownership or legitimate representation and state-approved identification. Searching for and claiming property is a free public service provided by the Indiana Attorney General.

**WABASH COUNTY**

PROPERTY NUMBER NAME ADDRESS CITY

| PROPERTY NUMBER | NAME | ADDRESS | CITY |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 8989977 | ALICE BRADLEY | 4665 W 100 S LOT 21 | WABASH |
| 899922 | AMY HOLMES | 6787 S 400 W | WABASH |
| 8537583 | ANDERSON SHAWN | 414 S MIAMI | WABASH |
| 8923707 | ARNETT DAVID | 817 BERKELEY DR | WABASH |
| 8784865 | AUGHINBAUGH KAY | 713 N MILL ST | N MANCHESTER |
| 8488386 | AYALA ANGELA | 208 W KENDALL ST | LA FONTAINE |
| 8358884 | BAKER JAMES R | 822 W 1050 N | N MANCHESTER |
| 8520888 | BAKER NATHAN | 5192 S 550 W | WABASH |
| 8492253 | BAUGH KEVIN | 1312 CLEAR CREEK TRL | N MANCHESTER |
| 9029180 | BECK JON | 12810 S 400 E | N MANCHESTER |
| 8744122 | BEEKS JESSICA | 105 MILL ST | N MANCHESTER |
| 8935882 | BENJAMIN WALTER | 91 S EAST ST | WABASH |
| 8546310 | BENNITT JENNIFER | 1060 S RIVERWOOD DR | WABASH |
| 8638750 | BING M FOWLER DDS | 1911 S WABASH ST | WABASH |
| 8784971 | BLAIR BARBARA | 350 UNLAWN LN | WABASH |
| 8638679 | CARPENTER PAUL | 418 GREEN ACRE LN | WABASH |
| 8977078 | CARUTHERS REA X | 4537 E OLD 24 | LAGRO |
| 8828592 | CASTRO MICHAEL | 806 N MIAMI ST 338825 | WABASH |
| 8600435 | CHAIN PATTI T | 7839 N 600 E | N MANCHESTER |
| 8938851 | CHENAULT HEATHER A | 215 FOREST AVE | WABASH |
| 8510268 | CLARK JACOB E | 6288 N 300 W | ROANN |
| 895797 | CONE SAM C | PO BOX 205 | ROANN |
| 8582872 | COOPER STACY | 2500 W OLD SLOCUM TRL | LA FONTAINE |
| 9060813 | CORCORAN JOHN | 1615 PIKE STREET | WABASH |
| 9060813 | CORCORAN PATRICIA | 1615 PIKE STREET | WABASH |
| 9084621 | CRAFT PAMELA | 304 N WALNUT ST APART | N MANCHESTER |
| 9060834 | CURLESS BRAD | PO BOX 251 | LAGRO |
| 8832080 | DEKAU DOROTHY G | PO BOX 275 | WABASH |
| 8826592 | DELACRUZ ALBERT | 1308 CREEKSIDE DR APT | WABASH |
| 8520379 | DENSTON TERRY L | 6671 W ST RD 16 | ROANN |
| 8989925 | DONALD HOLMES | 6787 S 400 W | WABASH |
| 8711161 | DORAN TRENT | 708 W THORN ST | N MANCHESTER |
| 8979991 | DOYLE G CORNETT | 8310 S 300 W | WABASH |
| 8524669 | DUNPHY JOANN | 1337 WILLARD DRIVE | WABASH |
| 8773735 | ESCHENBAKH KRIS | 525 N WABASH ST | WABASH |
| 8854685 | EST OF GARY A FLETCHER | 1301 CLEAR CREEK TRL | N MANCHESTER |
| 8959378 | EVANS MICHAEL D | 5074 E 1500 N | ROANN |
| 8844699 | FISHER BETTY | 1720 N ALBER STREET | WABASH |
| 8854865 | FLETCHER ELAINE | 1301 CLEAR CREEK TRL | N MANCHESTER |
| 8897259 | FLINN BRITTANY | 13174 N 325 E | N MANCHESTER |
| 8939249 | FLOYD CORY M | 1464 MILL ST | WABASH |
| 8496409 | FRENCH KERI M | 865 N EAST ST | WABASH |
| 9068865 | GAIER SANDRA | 7580 S 950 W-92 | N MANCHESTER |
| 9077662 | GARNER MARY R | 105 FLAMINGO DR | LA FONTAINE |
| 8510266 | GIDLEY KALEB M | 711 W MAIN ST | WABASH |
| 8553840 | GIFFORD J DEAN | 10 GOLF COURSE DR | WABASH |
| 9074517 | GILLENWATER KEITH | 1260 W 500 S | WABASH |
| 870317 | GRANT LEAH | 13151 STATE ROAD 13 | N MANCHESTER |
| 8497901 | GREGORY MADELYN | 430 ANNA ST | WABASH |
| 8826795 | GRIFFIN PATRICK M | 113 S CASS ST 1 | WABASH |
| 8515970 | HALE DANNY L | 547 CHAMPION ST | WABASH |
| 9033109 | HAMPTON AMY | 6002 E STATE ROAD 114 | N MANCHESTER |
| 9033109 | HAMPTON JEFFERY | 6002 E STATE ROAD 114 | N MANCHESTER |
| 8595728 | HARRIET LOWER | 180 WALNUT ST | WABASH |
| 8591640 | HAUPERT L F | 340 N CHIPPEWA ST | ROANN |
| 8828876 | HECK TRENT | 20 | |

Sports

B1

Thursday, February 27, 2020

 WabashPlainDealer.com

Quick Hits

Apaches

survive tough test

The Wabash boys' basketball team overcame Eastern on the road on Tuesday, 49-39. Elijah Vander Velden led the way with 15 points, seven rebounds and six blocks. Jasper Walter added nine.

Rich explodes to guide Knights to win

Carson Rich poured in 35 points at home on Tuesday to power Southwood to a 65-54 win over Eastbrook. Rich finished 14-of-20 from the field while also grabbing nine rebounds and tallying six steals.

Sixers' Embiid fined for flipping off Hawk, cursing on air

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA fined Philadelphia 76ers center Joel Embiid \$25,000 on Wednesday, two days after he made an obscene gesture on the court and used profane language during a live television interview.

In announcing the fine, the NBA noted that the amount "reflects his multiple prior violations of acceptable on-court decorum."

The gesture occurred with 17 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter of the Sixers' 129-112 victory over the Hawks on Monday night. With the clock winding down, Atlanta's Kevin Huerter came from behind and swiped the ball from Embiid, who was trying to dribble it out. Embiid responded by flashing a middle finger at Huerter. He later apologized.

Franklin's deal with Penn State worth \$38.2M over 6 years

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Penn State football coach James Franklin is guaranteed at least \$38.2 million over the length of a new six-year contract that runs through 2025.

The contract was agreed to by Franklin and approved by Penn State's Board of Trustees in December. Terms of the agreement were announced Wednesday.

The 48-year-old Franklin will earn \$5.4 million next year, plus a retention bonus of \$300,000 if he is still coach on Dec. 31. His salary rises every season, topping out at \$6.5 million, with a \$500,000 retention bonus in 2025. Franklin also is guaranteed a \$1 million annual loan toward life insurance.

Submit your news

The Plain Dealer is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports.

To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants.

Reports must be received by 3 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

■ Emailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

■ Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

■ Mailed into Plain Dealer, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Organizations or individuals emailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The Plain Dealer reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.



Jacob Rude / Plain Dealer

Manchester's Max Carter (21) drives baseline against a Whitko defender during Tuesday's contest.

Third-quarter burst sends Whitko past Squires

By JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

NORTH MANCHESTER — Tuesday's meeting between Manchester and Whitko's boys' basketball teams showcased how one of the area's top rivalries has fallen on leaner times in recent years. Once a match-up that filled gymnasiums and featured some of the state's best, the intrigue was still apparent in their latest battle.

A back-and-forth first half gave way to a dominant third-quarter performance by Whitko that powered the

Wildcats to a 55-50 win on the road over the Squires.

Whitko surged out of the

halftime, which saw the two teams tied at 26-26, starting with a Brett Sickafoose three. Drake Lewis followed with the next five points before William Rickard capped off the opening spurt with a three, forcing a Manchester timeout after an 11-0 run.

Kreeden Krull stopped the run with a pair of free throws but Whitko scored nine of the

final 11 points of the frame. Manchester's lone field goal of the period came prior to a

four-point play from Sick-

oose, who scored a game-high 31 points.

Lewis closed Whitko's

dominant period with a three-pointer to give the guests a 46-30 heading into the fourth. Whitko outscored Manchester 20-4 in the third period.

Manchester immediately

went on a run in the fourth

to fight back into the game as Krull sandwiched a pair of layups around a Thane Creager three-pointer to cut the gap to nine points.

Sickafoose answered that

run with a three-pointer and a layup to restore a 51-37

edge.

But the Squires didn't

relent. Starting with a pair of

free throws from Max Carter

at the 4:00 mark, Manchester

began chipping away again.

Carter scored seven-straight

points in total as the lead

dwindled down to 51-44.

Free throw struggles from

Whitko kept the Squires

in the game as Kylar Bryant

would split a pair with 85

seconds left and Austin Underwood would connect

on a corner three to pull

Manchester to within five at

See SQUIRES, page B2

Huntington North rides hot shooting past Northfield

By NICK ALTMAN
sports@h-ponline.com

Sometime in mid-January, the Huntington North boys basketball team seemed to find its offensive stride.

Following a sluggish 39 percent shooting performance in a loss at Concordia on Jan. 14, the Vikings turned a corner, connecting on more than 56 percent of their shot attempts since. Despite the offensive turnaround, they only picked

up two wins during that seven-game stretch and had dropped four straight.

The Vikings were finally rewarded for their sharpshooting on Tuesday with a commanding 63-44 victory at Northfield.

"We needed the win," Huntington North head coach Craig Teagle said. "We've played a lot better this last month, but came up short in a couple of the opportunities we had to win, so it was nice to get one."

Huntington North (7-14) continued its offensive onslaught against the Norsemen, knocking down 60 percent from the field, including six of 11 shots from beyond the three-point arc.

The Vikings never trailed in the contest, with Jordan Hollowell converting a three-point play following a Ross Watson foul just 30 seconds after the opening tip. Northfield (5-16) quickly got onto the board with a Liam Johnson basket, but the

Vikes responded with an 8-0 run over the next two minutes, bookended by a pair of Sam Thompson three-pointers to stretch their lead to 11-2 with five minutes left in the opening period.

A Johnson trey and a bucket by Levi Fulkerson trimmed the Huntington North advantage to four points, but back-to-back baskets from Dom Cardwell and a pair of free throws from Thompson gave

See NORTHFIELD, page B2

See NFL, page B2

Tokyo organizers, government take offensive on virus threat

By STEPHEN WADE
Associated Press

TOKYO — Tokyo Olympic organizers and the Japanese government went on the offensive Wednesday after a senior IOC member said the 2020 Games were being threatened by the spread of a viral outbreak, with their fate probably decided in the next three months.

Tokyo organizing committee CEO Toshiro Muto abruptly called a news conference late Wednesday afternoon to address comments

from former International Olympic Committee vice president Dick Pound in an interview with The Associated Press.

"Our basic thoughts are that we will go ahead with the Olympic and Paralympic Games as scheduled," Muto said, speaking in Japanese. "For the time being, the situation of the coronavirus infection is, admittedly, difficult to predict, but we will take measures such that we'll have a safe Olympic and Paralympic Games."

The viral outbreak that be-

gan in China has infected more than 80,000 people and killed more than 2,700 globally. China has reported 2,715 deaths among 78,064 cases on the mainland. Five deaths in Japan have been attributed to the virus.

Pound has been a member of the IOC since 1978, serving two terms as vice president, and was the founding president of the World Anti-Doping Agency. He has served 13 years longer than IOC president Thomas Bach. He also represented Canada as a swimmer at the Olym-

pics.

"You could certainly go to two months out if you had to," Pound told the AP in a telephone interview from his home in Montreal. "By and large you're looking at a cancellation. This is the new war, and you have to face it. In and around there folks are going to have to say: 'Is this under sufficient control that we can be confident of going to Tokyo or not?'"

Pound was speaking as a rank-and-file member and not part of the IOC's present leadership, but his opinions

are often sought in IOC circles.

Player reps send new CBA to union members for their approval

By BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

The NFL moved closer to labor peace for another decade early Wednesday when player representatives voted to send a new deal already approved by the owners that includes a 17-game season to the full union membership.

A simple majority of some 2,000 players must accept the agreement for it to go into effect this year.

After nearly four hours of meetings between player reps and members of the NFL's negotiating committee Tuesday in Indianapolis, the 32 team reps spent several more hours discussing the deal. They then gave the nod for all NFL Players Association members to make the final decision.

George Atallah, assistant executive director of external affairs at the NFLPA, announced the move on his verified Twitter account after 1 a.m. Wednesday.

There was no immediate word when that vote would occur.

The new CBA calls for a 17-game regular season, which is expected to begin in 2021; more roster spots; a shortened preseason; a higher percentage of revenues for players; and upgraded pensions for former players. The owners approved it last Thursday, though not unanimously.

It seems certain the players will accept the deal, or else their leadership would not likely have made this move.

The NFL Players Association's executive committee voted 6-5 against the contract on Friday. The 32 player reps postponed any action while seeking a meeting with the league, which occurred in Indianapolis on Tuesday.

The current collective bargaining agreement expires in March 2021, but the owners are eager to get a new contract in place as soon as possible. That would enable them to begin looking toward new, lucrative broadcast deals, with a decade of labor peace assured.

But the players didn't appear to be in a rush to approve the new agreement that is the result of 10 months of negotiations between the sides. Indeed, several player reps last Friday night were adamant that more negotiating is needed.

The dickest topic has been a 17-game schedule. Players have been firm and loud in opposition for years — dating to before the 2011 lockout that ended with an agreement to the current labor deal. Mainly, the players have been citing safety

See OLYMPICS, page B2

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

| Atlantic Division | | | | |
|-------------------|----|-----|------|-----|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Toronto | 42 | 16 | .724 | — |
| Boston | 40 | 17 | .702 | 1½ |
| Phila. | 36 | 22 | .621 | 6 |
| Brooklyn | 26 | 30 | .464 | 15 |
| New York | 17 | 40 | .298 | 24½ |

Southeast Division

| W | L | Pct | GB |
|------------|----|-----|------|
| Miami | 36 | 21 | .632 |
| Orlando | 25 | 32 | .439 |
| Washington | 20 | 36 | .357 |
| Charlotte | 19 | 38 | .333 |
| Atlanta | 17 | 42 | .288 |

Central Division

| W | L | Pct | GB |
|-------------|----|-----|------|
| x-Milwaukee | 50 | 8 | .862 |
| Indiana | 34 | 24 | .586 |
| Chicago | 20 | 39 | .339 |
| Detroit | 19 | 41 | .317 |
| Cleveland | 16 | 41 | .281 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| W | L | Pct | GB |
|-------------|----|-----|------|
| Houston | 37 | 20 | .649 |
| Dallas | 35 | 23 | .603 |
| Memphis | 28 | 29 | .491 |
| New Orleans | 25 | 33 | .431 |
| San Antonio | 24 | 32 | .429 |

Northwest Division

| W | L | Pct | GB |
|---------------|----|-----|------|
| Denver | 40 | 18 | .690 |
| Utah | 36 | 21 | .632 |
| Oklahoma City | 36 | 22 | .621 |
| Portland | 26 | 33 | .441 |
| Minnesota | 16 | 40 | .286 |

Pacific Division

| W | L | Pct | GB |
|---------------|----|-----|------|
| L.A. Lakers | 44 | 12 | .786 |
| L.A. Clippers | 38 | 19 | .667 |
| Sacramento | 24 | 33 | .421 |
| Phoenix | 24 | 34 | .414 |
| Golden State | 12 | 46 | .207 |

x-clinched playoff spot

Tuesday's Games

Indiana 119, Charlotte 80

Milwaukee 108, Toronto 97

Oklahoma City 124, Chicago 122

Denver 115, Detroit 98

Portland 118, Portland 106

L.A. Lakers 118, New Orleans 109

Sacramento 112, Golden State 94

Wednesday's Games

Brooklyn at Washington

New York at Charlotte

Phila. at Cleveland

Minnesota at Miami

Orlando at Atlanta

Memphis at Houston

Dallas at San Antonio

L.A. Clippers at Phoenix

Boston at Utah

Today's Games

New York at Phila., 7 p.m.

Portland at Indiana, 8 p.m.

Sacramento at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Minnesota at Orlando, 7 p.m.

Brooklyn at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

Charlotte at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

Cleveland at New Orleans, 8 p.m.

Dallas at Miami, 8 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.

Sacramento at Memphis, 8 p.m.

Detroit at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Washington at Utah, 9 p.m.

Denver at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Chicago at New York, 5 p.m.

Brooklyn at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

Portland at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

Indiana at Cleveland, 8 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8 p.m.

Houston at Boston, 8:30 p.m.

Orlando at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.

Golden State at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Tuesday's results

INDIANA 119, CHARLOTTE 80

CHARLOTTE (80)

Bridges 7-16 1-17, Washington 3-9 0-2 9,

Zeller 4-9 1-4 9, Monk 4-13 0-0 8, Rozier 2-13 0-0 5, Biyombo 1-1 0-2 2, Hernan-

gomez 2-4 2-2, McDaniels 1-5 1-2 4,

Ca.Martin 4-10 0-0 11, Co.Martin 3-12 3-5

9, Cheeley 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 31-94 8-18 80.

INDIANA (119)

Sabinos 8-10 4-21, Warren 9-12 0-0 19,

Turner 2-9 0-0 6, A.Holiday 3-7 2-2 9, Brog-

don 6-8 1-2 15, Bitzade 1-2 2-5, Leaf 2-2

0-0 4, McDermott 5-12 0-0 10, Sampson

5-7 0-0 10, Bowen II 1-0 0-2, J.Holiday

6-12 2-2 16, McConnell 1-3 0-0 2. Totals

98-46 11-13 119.

Charlotte 25

Indiana 35 24 25 — 119

Point Goals—Charlotte 10-33 (Co.Martin

3-4, Washington 3-6, Bridges 2-6, McDan-

iels 1-3, Rozier 1-4, Co.Martin 0-4, Monk

0-4), Indiana 10-23 (Brogdon 2-3, Turner

2-4, J.Holiday 2-7, A.Holiday 1-2, Bitzade

1-2, McDermott 0-3). Fouled Out—None.

Rebounds—Charlotte 39 (Bridges, Co.Martin

6), Indiana 57 (Sabinos 15), Assists—Char-

lotte 22 (Rozier 7), Indiana 35 (Sabinos 9).

Total Fouls—Charlotte 13, Indiana 17.

A—16,088 (20,000).

OKLAHOMA CITY 124, CHICAGO 122

OKLAHOMA CITY (124)

Gallinari 8-16 3-4 24, Gilgeous-Alexander

5-11 9-12 21, Adams 6-8 4-6 16, Dort 0-2

0 0 0 1, Paul 1-5 6-5 19, Ferguson 3-5 2-2

11, Nader 2-4 0-0 6, Noel 3-0 2-2 6, Schoro-

2 8-3 2-2 1, Totals 42-76 26-35 124.

CHICAGO (122)

Satoransky 4-10 2-2 10, Young 3-8 0-0 8,

Gafford 3-4 0-0 6, Arcidiacono 1-3 0-0 2,

Latvia 19-35 0-3 41, Harrison 9-1 1-1 11,

Felici 3-6 0-0 6, Mokoka 1-1 0-0 3, White

13-21 3-3 35, Totals 52-97 6-9 122.

Oklahoma City 36 19 33 — 124

Chicago 28 27 38 29 — 122

3-Point Goals—Oklahoma City 14-30 (Galli-

nari 5-10, Ferguson 3-5, Nader 2-2, Schoro-

2 2-2, Gilgeous-Alexander 2-5, Paul 0-3,

Chicago 12-31 (White 6-9, Latvia 3-13,

Young 2-3, Harrison 0-2, Satoransky 0-2).

Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Oklahoma

City 37 (Gilgeous-Alexander 11), Chicago 39

(Felici 9), Assists—Oklahoma City 25 (Paul

9), Chicago 22 (Satoransky 7), Total Fouls—

Oklahoma City 17, Chicago 25. A—16,911

(20,917).

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Standings through Tuesday

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

Conference All Games

Sharapova retires at age 32 with 5 Slam titles

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

Maria Sharapova was a transcendent star in tennis from the time she was a teenager, someone whose grit and groundstrokes earned her a career Grand Slam and whose off-court success included millions of dollars more in endorsement deals than prize money.

And yet, Sharapova walked away from her sport rather quietly Wednesday at the age of 32, ending a career that featured five major championships, time at No. 1 in the WTA rankings, a 15-month doping ban and plenty of problems with her right shoulder.

There was no goodbye tournament, no last moment in the spotlight, for someone so used to garnering so much attention for so long, with or without a racket in hand.

"I've been pretty good in the past, balancing my time with my sponsors with my tennis, because I know my priority. At the end of the

day, what I love doing is competing, and that's where my heart is at: on center court," Sharapova said in a 2006 interview with The Associated Press right before that year's U.S. Open.

"There are a couple of sides of me," she said then. "There's the Maria that's a tennis player. There's the Maria that is a normal girl. And there's the Maria who's a businesswoman. And that's where the 'Maria Sharapova brand' comes into play."

Around that time, she signed a "lifetime" contract with a racket company, a deal that eventually was ended. And two weeks after that, she would win the U.S. Open trophy while wearing an outfit that resembled a sparkly black cocktail dress, part of the "couple of sides" persona she cultivated.

Two years later, though, Sharapova missed the tournament at Flushing Meadows because she needed surgery on her shoulder, which has troubled her off and on ever since; she had another opera-

tion on that joint in 2019.

She lost the last four matches she played at major tournaments, with first-round exits in her past three appearances, including at the Australian Open in January. That turned out to be the last match of her career and made her 0-2 this season.

In an essay written for Vanity Fair and Vogue about her decision to retire, posted online Wednesday, Sharapova asks: "How do you leave behind the only life you've ever known?"

She disclosed that she "had a procedure to numb my shoulder to get through the match" a half-hour before walking on court for a first-round exit at last year's U.S. Open, writing: "I share this not to garner pity, but to paint my new reality: My body had become a distraction."

Born in Russia, and "discovered" by Martina Navratilova at an exhibition event in Moscow, Sharapova moved to Florida as a child and trained at the Nick Bol-

lettieri Tennis Academy. "We'll miss her, baby. She's very special," Bollettieri told the AP in an interview last year, when Sharapova returned to his academy as she worked her way back from her latest shoulder procedure. "The tour will miss her. ... Always competitive. All business."

Sharapova burst onto the tennis scene at 17 by upsetting Serena Williams to win Wimbledon in 2004. She would beat Williams again at that year's season-ending tour championship to improve to 2-1 against the American – and never won another one of their matchups, dropping the next 19 in a row.

Powerful at the baseline, and famous for a never-give-up attitude, Sharapova reached No. 1 for the first time at 18 in 2005. After adding her second major trophy at the U.S. Open the following year, she collected an Australian Open title in 2008, and then won the French Open in 2012 and 2014.

Asked after that defeat whether it might have been her last appearance at the Australian Open, Sharapova repeatedly replied with, "I don't know."

"I put in all the right work. There is no guarantee that even when you do all of those things, that you're guaranteed victory in a first round or in the third round or in the final. That's the name of this game," Sharapova said after what turned out to be her final match.

After initially being given a two-year suspension, Sharapova appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, which reduced the penalty, ruling she bore "less than significant fault" in the case and could not be considered to be an intentional doper."

Since returning from that suspension in 2017, Sharapova managed to reach only one Slam quarterfinal. Her 6-3, 6-4 loss to Donna Vekic at Melbourne last month sent Sharapova's ranking tumbling outside of the top 350 – she is 373rd this week.

"Tennis showed me the world – and it showed me what I was made of. It's how I tested myself and how I measured my growth," Sharapova wrote on Twitter on Wednesday. "And so in whatever I might choose for my next chapter, my next mountain, I'll still be pushing. I'll still be climbing. I'll still be growing."

Honda Classic much more than 'The Bear Trap'

By TIM REYNOLDS

Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — PGA National's signature test is a three-hole span on the back nine called "The Bear Trap," named for Jack Nicklaus and touted as one of the most demanding stretches in all of golf.

The par-3 15th, with water down the right side. The par-4 16th, with the approach over water. The par-3 17th, over water again with a green that's sloped toward trouble. Oh, and the wind is almost always swirling on that part of the golf course.

They're daunting on a good day, diabolical on a bad day. And to win The Honda Classic, which starts Thursday at PGA National, one needs to worry about much more than those three holes.

The Bear Trap is one thing. The rest of PGA National, that's a bear, too.

"There's no easy hole out there," defending champion Keith Mitchell said.

The numbers make that abundantly clear. PGA National ranked as the fifth-toughest course to play on the PGA Tour last season, behind tracks that played host to four of what were supposed to be among the year's toughest tournaments. The PGA Champion-

ship at Bethpage had players, on average, shooting 2.5 shots over par per round. The U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, nearly 1.4 shots over par. The World Golf Championships event in China at Sheshan International, 1.3 shots over par. And the British Open at Royal Portrush, 1.2 shots over par.

Next up? The Honda, where players were just over a full shot past par in every round last season. And that meant it was easier than in 2018, when PGA National was the second toughest on tour behind only the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills.

"It's a hard golf course," said 2019 U.S. Open champion Gary Woodland. "I think that benefits me. Scores are never going to get too low. Obviously, it's a lot weather-depending. But it's one of the most mentally demanding golf courses I think we face all year. There's a lot of shots, especially coming down the back nine, that you just have to step up and hit shots. There's really no bailout."

There are a few safe bets for this week at the Honda: Nobody is going to run away with the tournament, and it'll be a shock if someone leaves town Sunday night after carding four rounds in the 60s.

This will be the 14th time that the Honda is played on

PGA National's Champion course; in the previous 13, four titles were decided in playoffs and only twice did the winner prevail by more than two shots. Nobody had four rounds in the 60s last year or in 2018; only seven players pulled off that feat between 2010 and 2017.

Par is never disappointing at PGA National: Last year, players broke par on 17 percent of their holes played, and gave back at least one stroke 19 percent of the time.

"The golf course has always been pretty good," said Brooks Koepka, who finished tied for second at the Honda last year and, at No. 3, is the highest-ranked player in this year's field. "It's tough. I like that."

And while the Bear Trap is a problem, none of those holes ranked even among the toughest five on the course last year. The par-4, 479-yard 6th played to an average of 4.37 in last year's tournament, making it the fourth-toughest hole on tour last season. The par-4, 450-yard 11th, the par-4, 508-yard 10th, the par-4, 465-yard 14th and the par-3, 217-yard fifth all proved tougher than anything in the Bear Trap as well.

But Woodland saw a bright side: The tests this week are a great primer for what looms on the not-too-distant schedule.

"I like getting to be able to hit some shots, some pressure shots before leading up to The Players and the Masters right around the corner," Woodland said. "It's nice for me to get some mental confidence going on a tough golf course."

Viktor Hovland, who got his first PGA Tour win last weekend in Puerto Rico, had never played PGA National until a late-afternoon round Tuesday. He started on the back nine, putting his tee ball on the 10th into the lip of a bunker about 260 yards away and 235 yards to the flag.

"I was like, 'Well, this is a pretty easy par-5 if I just catch one,'" Hovland said. "That's when he was told the 10th is a par-4. In other words: Welcome to PGA National."

"There's a lot of really tough holes out there," Hovland said.

NOTES: Koepka is the only player in the field currently ranked among the world's top 10. ... A slew of big-name South Florida residents like Tiger Woods, Dustin Johnson, Justin Thomas and Rory McIlroy aren't playing this week. ... The Honda purse is up for a fourth straight year, now a record \$7 million, which means a record \$1.26 million is going to the winner. That's \$36,000 more than Mitchell got last year.

leled, almost single-handedly shutting down the entire paint.

"We've been trying to tell Droke all along he can dominate a game without getting a lot of touches. If that's the case, he's quickly becoming as good a center or the best defensive center since I've been here, and we've had some good ones," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "I think people have begun to recognize him for what he brings to the table."

Azubuike has come a long ways since his childhood in Delta, Nigeria. He was an

exceedingly raw prospect coming out of high school, and his only offensive move early on was a dunk. But his game has improved over time to where he is a more well-rounded player – even his chronically poor foul shooting has reached an acceptable level.

Still, the question remains: Will the bruising big man's game translate to the NBA?

Most mock drafts have the senior center going in the second round, if at all, primarily because teams are wary of drafting a prototypical center the way the game has evolved. And whereas Azubuike can dunk his way to big numbers in college, those easy looks at the rim will be much harder to find in the pros, and his mid-range game remains a work in progress.

"If he plays to his athletic ability that's how he'll get paid," Self said. "He'll never get paid by shooting 15-foot fadaways or whatever it is."

Azubuike has certainly opened some eyes over the last month.

His run began with 17 points and 12 rebounds against Texas, then continued with 20 points and 15 boards at TCU. Azubuike had another double-double against Oklahoma, then had 23 points and 19 rebounds last Saturday as the Jayhawks (25-3, 13-1) beat then-No. 1 Baylor on the road to regain the top spot in the nation and forge a tie atop the Big 12 standings.

Along the way, Azubuike reached the 1,000-point mark for his career – a nice benchmark considering he missed much of his first couple seasons to injury. His total of 35 rebounds in the past two games are the most since Thomas Robinson had that many during the 2011-12 season, and his 42 points and 35 rebounds allowed him to join Robinson, Dedric Lawson, Wayne Simien and Drew Gooden as the only players with at 40 or more points and 30 or more rebounds in a two-game span.

Azubuike has also been able to steer clear of foul trouble. His conditioning has improved to the point that he can easily play more than 30 minutes per game. And his defense has been unpar-

Azubuike leading No. 1 Kansas back on top of college hoops

By DAVE SKRETTA

AP Basketball Writer

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Oklahoma State coach Mike Boynton had just finished watching Udoka Azubuike bully his way to 19 points and 16 rebounds against his over-matched Cowboys when he pulled the 7-footer aside and pointed to the rafters in Allen Fieldhouse.

"Keep it up," Boynton whispered into the ear of the Kansas center, "and your name will be up there, too."

There are certain requirements for a player to have his jersey raised above the south seats in the old field house, among them becoming an All-American or winning the Big 12's player of the year award. It's not an honor that the Jayhawks bestow on just anyone.

The way Azubuike has been playing lately, it won't be long before his No. 35 joins the jerseys of the great Wilt Chamberlain, Clyde Lovellette, Jo Jo White and Danny Manning hanging from the ceiling.

"I don't watch a whole lot of national basketball," Boynton said later, "but I'd be hard-pressed to find a better national player of the year candidate than he is. The way he's playing now is pretty special. Obviously there's a special kind of fan base here and they appreciate it, but I don't know if people appreciate him nationally."

Azubuike has certainly opened some eyes over the last month.

His run began with 17 points and 12 rebounds against Texas, then continued with 20 points and 15 boards at TCU. Azubuike had another double-double against Oklahoma, then had 23 points and 19 rebounds last Saturday as the Jayhawks (25-3, 13-1) beat then-No. 1 Baylor on the road to regain the top spot in the nation and forge a tie atop the Big 12 standings.

Along the way, Azubuike reached the 1,000-point mark for his career – a nice benchmark considering he missed much of his first couple seasons to injury. His total of 35 rebounds in the past two games are the most since Thomas Robinson had that many during the 2011-12 season, and his 42 points and 35 rebounds allowed him to join Robinson, Dedric Lawson, Wayne Simien and Drew Gooden as the only players with at 40 or more points and 30 or more rebounds in a two-game span.

Azubuike has also been able to steer clear of foul trouble. His conditioning has improved to the point that he can easily play more than 30 minutes per game. And his defense has been unpar-

College hockey coach Thomas Adrahtas moved from job to job, despite sex allegations

By AMY FORLITI

and MICHAEL TARM

Associated Press

November 2018. For Kellin, Adrahtas' ability to move easily from job to job after the accusations were reported raises questions.

"In my opinion, they dropped the ball," Kellin told The Associated Press on Tuesday, a day after the University of Minnesota announced that it is investigating the allegations. "I'm disgusted that he was allowed to keep doing it. He's a predator. He's a creep."

The allegations were first reported by The Athletic, which quoted several first-hand accounts by young men who said they were victimized. Adrahtas, 64, did not immediately respond to messages left by the AP at a cellphone number believed to be his. He denied to The Athletic that he had ever sexually abused anyone.

It's likely too late for Adrahtas to face criminal or civil charges in Minnesota for alleged abuse in the 1980s, due to the statute of limitations. So far, no allegations have emerged publicly from Adrahtas' time at Robert Morris.

University spokeswoman Nancy Donohoe told the AP that if any complaints had come in, the school would have acted on them. She declined to say whether Robert Morris opened any inquiries into Adrahtas or whether the school would release re-

cords related to his tenure, saying she could not speak about personnel issues.

During his 10 years at Robert Morris, Adrahtas gained a reputation as a standout coach and recruiter who raised the level of play despite a modest budget. During the 2013-2014 season, Robert Morris made it to the American Collegiate Hockey Association title game, losing to top-ranked Arizona State.

According to The Athletic, Adrahtas was scheduled to be inducted into the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame in 2010. When one of his former players, Chris Jensen, heard about that, he reached out to the Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois, or AHAI, and told the group that he was one of Adrahtas' victims.

In a statement to the AP, the amateur hockey organization said it suspended Adrahtas indefinitely on March 1, 2010, pending a hearing that did not happen because Adrahtas resigned from all AHAI affiliate positions. His suspension is still in effect.

It's unclear whether AHAI and the University of Minnesota reported the allegations to police.

Adrahtas is also suspended from coaching any USA Hockey-sanctioned teams, pending the completion of a investigation by the U.S.

Center for SafeSport investigating allegations from multiple former players. SafeSport investigates reports of sexual misconduct and abuse within organizations that are affiliated with the U.S. Olympic Committee, including USA Hockey. SafeSport says on its website that Adrahtas was temporarily suspended on Sept. 13, 2018, after allegations of misconduct. The website does not provide details.

The center said in a statement that it "doesn't discuss individual matters to protect the integrity of the process and the safety and privacy of the people involved, including those who report abuse."

The Athletic reported that the SafeSport investigation was launched after one of Adrahtas' former junior hockey players, Mike Sacks, sent a letter to both the American Collegiate Hockey Association and Robert Morris University describing a 20-month span of sexual abuse and exploitation. Sacks declined to comment Tuesday when reached by the AP.

The University of Minnesota said it has hired the Seattle-based law firm Perkins Coie to determine what happened.

American Collegiate Hockey Association Director Mark Coyle also wrote to members of the 1984-85 team, inviting them to come forward with information.

SafeSport sent a letter to the University of Minnesota, asking it to provide information about the investigation and the outcome. The letter was sent on Jan. 10, 2019, and the university responded on Jan. 15, 2019.

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Government will be accepting applications for an Assistant to the County Veteran Service Officer in the Veteran Affairs Office. Responsibilities include basic office tasks, assisting veterans and CVOS. The deadline for applications is 12:00pm on 3/2/20. Applications and job description can be found at www.grant-county.net. All applications must be turned into Grant County HR (jsaathoff@grant-county.net) by the above deadline.

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Legals

NOTICE OF HEARING BEFORE THE WABASH COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOSEPH H. BONNER (#508) REGULATED DRAIN, LOCATED IN PLEASANT TOWNSHIP, WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA.

To Whom It May Concern:

You are hereby notified that on the 16th day March 2020, A HEARING will be held at 10:00 A.M. in the Office of the Wabash County Surveyor, Courthouse, 1 West Hill St., Wabash, Indiana; before the Wabash County Drainage Board on the proposed Reconstruction for the above said drain. The Surveyor's Report, Plans and the Schedule of Assessments have been filed and are available for public inspection in the Office of the Wabash County Surveyor. Not less than five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing, any owner of land affected may file with the Board a written objection to the report, plans and/or schedule of assessments.

Wabash County Drainage Board

Barry Eppley, Chairman

Dated: February 27, 2020 HSPAXLP

2/27/2020

Legals

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Alcohol Beverage Board of Wabash County, Indiana will hold a public hearing at 9:00 am on

Wife grows anxious as man grows closer to her sister

DEAR ABBY: I've been married to my husband for 21 years. We've had our ups and downs, but our relationship is solid.

For the last year, I have watched as my husband has become closer to my sister. It started with phone calls every once in a while to check on how she's doing. (She lives in our second home in a different state.) Then it turned into hours-long conversations a few times a week. When I told him it made me very uncomfortable, he said they are just "very, very good friends."

About six months ago, he started calling me by her name at inappropriate times. I told him he has been murmuring her name in my ear while we're in bed. He said he was sorry, and he would make some changes to the relationship with my sister. The changes he made were to talk to her every night for hours at a time. Then he needed to go to our other house "to get it ready for winter." He was alone with her for two weeks and then extended his stay by another week because she is "having health issues."

I told him I think he's having an emotional affair with my sister, but he disagreed. I'm in constant panic mode and don't know what to do. Any advice? — Suspicious In The Northwest

DEAR SUSPICIOUS: I don't blame you for being as upset as you are because, to say the least, what your husband has been doing is inappropriate. Have you talked to your sister about this? If you haven't, you should.

I am surprised that you didn't go with him when he went to visit "Sissy" and help her with her "health issues." That he extended his stay with her makes me wonder if there may be more going on than an emotional affair.

You need more support than a newspaper column can provide. Make an appointment with a licensed marriage and family therapist, if only to calm your panic and gain an ally. If you can convince your husband to go, it might allay your fears. But if he isn't interested — go alone.

DEAR ABBY: I have a dream job and enjoy every part of it, except for the lunch hour. The time for my break isn't debatable, nor is the area. We have a specific area for eating, and we aren't supposed to bring food to our work station.

During lunch time, seven to 10 people talk politics every day. It doesn't help that we are on opposite sides of the fence, but even if we weren't, I'm tired of all the nastiness on both sides.

I have politely asked them to discuss topics other than politics. I even talked to my boss about it, but he said it's not up to him what people talk about on their down time. Sometimes he joins us in the lunchroom and contributes to the topic. One of my co-workers is eight months pregnant, and she gets so worked up, I worry she'll go into premature labor. What should my next step, short of quitting, be? — Losing My Appetite

DEAR LOSING: Unless there is a rule specifying that you must eat your lunch inside the office, consider taking your lunch break outside. When the weather is mild, it could be a nice, quiet break. If it's too cold to eat outside, you could do it in your car and listen to music. However, if that's not possible, the solution to your problem might be as simple as noise-canceling headphones.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear
Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Walt Kelly strip
- 5 Folk dance shoe
- 9 Cot or crib
- 12 Poles' connector
- 13 Clock hand
- 14 Navajo foe
- 15 Exam
- 16 Jot
- 17 Tie up the phone
- 18 Contest hopeful
- 20 Preference
- 22 Potato st.
- 23 Ms. Farrow of films
- 24 Brake parts
- 27 Dog-tired
- 30 Yikes! (hyph.)
- 31 Runway sight
- 32 Gullet
- 34 Benedictine title
- 35 Crawling insect
- 36 Carpet choice
- 37 Let
- 40 Goose-bumpy

DOWN

- 41 Linden or Holbrook
- 42 Firm up
- 43 Pungent vegetable
- 46 Yanking, as a tooth
- 50 Seedcase
- 51 Broad smile
- 53 Squared away
- 54 Genre fortune
- 55 Good fortune
- 56 Mitchell mansion
- 57 Overhead railways
- 58 Online auction site
- 59 Weather word
- 7 Ump's yell
- 8 Free
- 9 Purchases
- 10 Oregon, to Yves
- 11 Hockey feint
- 19 Classified section
- 21 Pleased sigh
- 23 Stray dog
- 24 Fizzle
- 25 Flapjack chain
- 26 Several
- 27 Aptitude
- 28 Arab VIP
- 29 "Soft Watches" artist
- 30 Snaky fish
- 32 Sticky
- 33 NYC theater award
- 34 ROMNI
- 35 LAKE
- 36 OMNI
- 37 RAH
- 38 LONE
- 39 ESE
- 40 CUD
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- 43 ALI
- 44 GHT
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Answer to Previous Puzzle

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| AGO | CUD | |
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| OVAL | OMNI | RAH |
| SIDE | LONE | ESE |
| SLED | EAT | WHY |



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| 1 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 6 |
| 9 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 1 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 |
| 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 4 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 3 |
| 7 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| 5 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| 8 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 9 |

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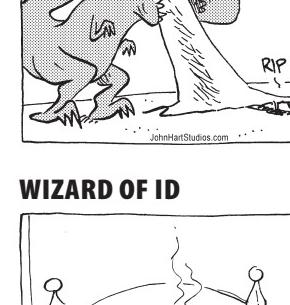
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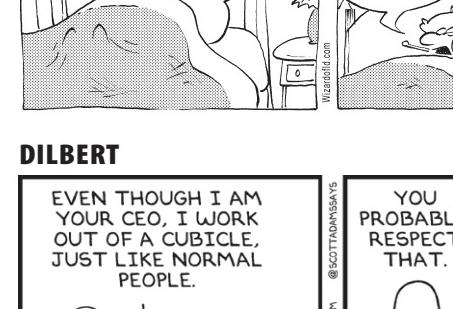
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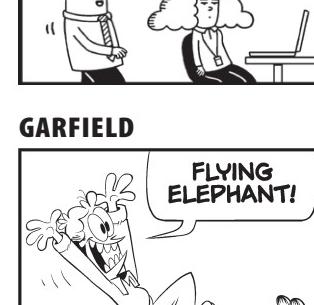
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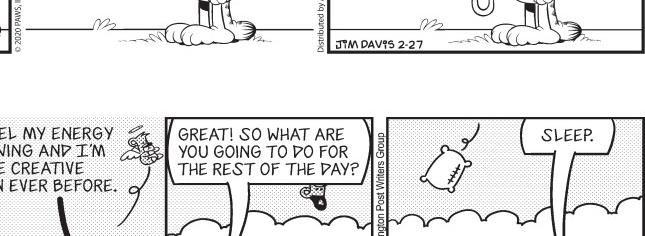
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PICKLES



Parent needs to consider the impact of their influence

By BILLY GRAHAM

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: I'm conflicted about working outside the home when I have

small children still in elementary school. If I give up my income, my husband and I may not be able to continue the lifestyle our

children profit from; and doesn't it seem

a waste of my education? — P.D.

A: By necessity or by desire,

more women are working today outside the home than ever before. Many feel guilty about leaving their children in the care of others.

Many women must work to support themselves and their children, but many devote more time to their

careers than they do to their family life.

To paraphrase the Bible, what shall it profit a man (or a woman) who gains the whole world but loses his or her own family? What achievement in life is equal to a happy home and family? Every material goal, even if it is met, will pass away. But the investment of influence in the home is timeless.

Children do need the guidance of their parents and are guided more by the example parents set. Children are in the home only a few short years. Every parent needs to consider carefully the impact

made in His image and for whom Christ died. Our primary responsibility is not to make sure they have the best clothes and live in the best houses. It is to make sure they grow up in homes where God is present and the love of Christ reigns so that they will come to know God through His Son.

Children do need the guidance of their parents and are guided more by the example parents set. Children are in the home only a few short years. Every parent needs to consider carefully the impact

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